



JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF SOUTHERN ALBERTA

DISCOVERY

The Journal of the

תגלית

JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY of Southern Alberta

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VE Day

Last fall, JHSSA received a scan of an incredible letter, written by Esther Pearlman to her brother, Allan "Curly" Gurevitch, who was serving overseas with the Canadian Army. We are grateful to Curly's son, Darrell, who shared the letter with us, and granted us permission to reprint it here.

May 7th/45
Curly Dear!!!!

It came — it's here. Tomorrow is VE Day — it means it's all over in Europe!! What a happy thought — no I've not been celebrating yet — but tonight us gals are gathering together to do something — and it won't be to drink tea. Oh it's such a wonderful thought that nearly all our worries are over — I hope you'll be homeward bound to the shores of Halifax — there to Calgary — which is truly home. Our radio has been buzzing all day to keep us right up to the minute in what is new in this terrific history making day. I shall give a special thanksgiving of my own for the powers above who watched over you — Zack, Morris and all our other fellas who went through this unharmed. I guess there are still some difficult days ahead — so may things still go well. I can just imagine the excitement in the ranks amongst all of you boys who have really seen the atrocities of what this war has entailed. But it's over — and let's hope this time is the last time.

Updates to JCC Veterans Wall of Honour

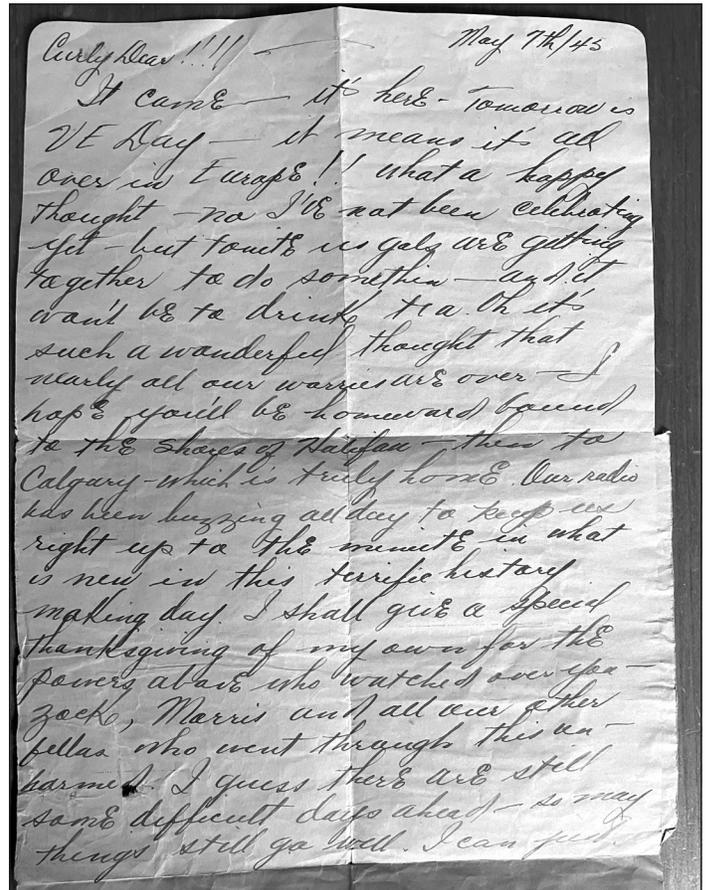
Many months ago, JHSSA was contacted by Paperny Family Calgary JCC (the JCC) regarding updates to the Centre's Veterans Wall of Honour.

The first veterans display, mounted in 1998, had been a project of the Jewish War Veterans (JWV) of Canada, Calgary Post #2, a highly-regarded organization that ceased operations in 2014. The intention of the display was to acknowledge local Jewish servicemen, and to that end, a call was sent out for photographs for inclusion. The JWV received 137 photographs of veterans of several allied forces, and they were proudly displayed for almost 2 decades.

Over the years the display incurred minor damage, some caption errors were noted, and it was realized that several of the included veterans actually had no personal connection to southern Alberta. More importantly, ongoing research into the military participation of the Jewish communities of Calgary and area made it clear that

Continued on Page 2

It's sort of anticlimactic to say I golfed both Sat and Sunday — and Curly you would have been proud of me — I really did well a 51 – 53 – 56 – for the first three rounds. But as I said golf is so remote now — Victory is in the Air. It's over thank God — see you soon I hope. Love & regards from everyone — specially me. Love, Esther



In this Issue:

VE Day.....	1
Veterans Wall of Honour.....	1
Welcome to the Warren.....	2
JHSSA Cemetery Files.....	4
Zichronam Livracha.....	5
JHSSA News.....	6
Membership List.....	7
President's Message.....	8
Thank You to our LIFE & LEGACY Donors.....	8

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Veterans Wall *Continued from Page 1*

there were many, many omissions — in fact, the display included less than half of our local veterans. Unfortunately, the original design was such that neither corrections nor additions were possible, and the JCC made the decision to redesign the wall, respecting and building on the original intention of JWV Calgary.

The new Wall of Honour, created in 2018 with the support of JHSSA, uses a design that allows for adjustment and adaptation. Its first iteration held some 200 display pieces, representing all of the local Commonwealth veterans from World Wars I and II for whom a photograph was available, along with their name, birth (and death) dates, branch and years of service. In addition, the exhibit included lists of all the local veterans of non-Commonwealth forces included in the JHSSA Southern Alberta Jewish Veterans of World War I & II database (most of whom had not been part of the original display), textual pieces to acknowledge the legacy and intention of the original JWV display, and an outline of the parameters of the new display, including the intention to someday expand it to include photographs of local veterans of non-Commonwealth forces, as well as later conflicts and peace-keeping initiatives.

The first expansion to the Wall of Honour happened in time for Remembrance Day 2023, with the addition of 55 new photographs of veterans, including Americans, Soviets and those who served in Mahal (overseas volunteers who fought alongside Israeli forces during the 1948 Arab–Israeli War). Close readers of the display signage might notice — and wonder about — a small change to the accompanying wording, which now states “... individuals with a documented connection to the Jewish communities of southern Alberta ...”. The change was deemed necessary to address the not-unreasonable assumption that everyone in a Jewish veterans database would be Jewish, and would therefore have a “built-in” connection to the Jewish community. With the display now including Calgary Mahalniks, however, it was important to be clear, because one of the War of Independence veterans is Bill Wadman, who has a unique place in the (military) history of our community.

Charles William Wadman was born in Ontario in 1922, the eldest of Charles Frederick and Florence Wadman’s five



Updated Calgary JCC Veterans Wall of Honour, November 2023

children. A meteorologist by profession, and an Anglican by faith, Bill joined the RCAF in 1941 and trained in Calgary, serving as a wireless operator flying coastal patrols from Scotland.

Then in 1948, Wadman volunteered for the Israeli Air Force. He flew daylight missions for almost 3 years (sometimes with Calgarian

Yale Joffe, who was a photographer during the war), and eventually served as a training instructor. On his return to Calgary, he remained closely connected to the Jewish community, and he became an active member of JWV Calgary; his support for and fundraising efforts on behalf of that organization were such that he was honoured by JWV Canada at a banquet in 1992.

By that time, it’s possible that Bill had become such a fixture that his presence was taken somewhat for granted; it was at that event that many of those in attendance were surprised to learn, for the first time, the backstory of Bill’s commitment to our community:

Bill’s father, Charles Frederick Wadman, was born in 1893 in Worcestershire, England. During WWI, he served with the 1/4th Battalion, Dorsetshire Regiment, and saw action throughout the Middle East. In September 1917, Charles was taken prisoner by Turkish troops, south-east of Jerusalem; two months later, he escaped with two other men, both of whom were killed. Charles himself suffered a serious leg wound, and was eventually found in the desert by members of a Jewish settlement. The kibbutz community tended to his wound, and kept him hidden from Turkish patrols until mid-December, when he was able to rejoin the British forces. Charles emigrated to Canada in 1921 and married Florence Brabrooke; his children grew up hearing the story of how it was due to the compassion and bravery of the Jewish settlers, that their father had survived.

This story played a key role in Bill’s decision to join the Israeli Air Force, and in his life-long support of the Jewish community of Calgary; from his perspective, it was a chance to actively acknowledge what had been done for his father, and by extension, for him. Paperny Family Calgary JCC — and Jewish Historical Society of Southern Alberta — are pleased to include him on the Veterans Wall of Honour, in recognition of what he did for us.

second stack of drawers contains our Personal files, which include information on various families and individuals from our community. For several months now, JHSSA has been weeding through and reorganizing these drawers. The process has been an interesting one, and we would like to share the story of one file, which, while quite thin, led us down a wide range of research rabbit holes with its various interconnections.



Charles “Bill” Wadman, outside the officer’s quarters at Ekron, Israel c1949.

While most people are aware that our organization maintains an archives, not everyone is familiar with our subject files, which are often the first stop when someone has a research question. These subject files, housed in the drawers of two large cabinets, consist of photocopies, articles, and other secondary sources. One stack of drawers contains Organizational files on everything from Agudas Zion to the local Young Men’s Hebrew Association (a full list can be found on our website under the “Doing Research at JHSSA” tab); a

Continued on Page 3

Welcome to the Warren *Continued from Page 2*

The file titled "Goldstein, Louis & Mary (Asper)" contains only three items; a printout of a family tree for Louis "Lajos" "Leibeish" Goldstein from geni.com; a query from someone researching the family through Pier 21 in Halifax; and a two-page family history written by Shauna Shapiro Jackson, one of Louis and Mary's grandchildren. When you dig deeper, there are many resources — Historical Society and other — that can be used to fill in the details of this interesting family, their connections to so many other Calgary families, and so many aspects of the history of our community.

The geni.com page tells us that Louis, son of Alexander (Sandor) and Shifra, had been a reporter / journalist in Hungary, and was later a store-owner in Calgary. He had 10 siblings, and it's noted that one of his sisters, Giza, [Gita] married Herman Weisz. Gita and Herman lead us to the first of our JHSSA resources, the Southern Alberta Jewish Veterans of World War I & II database, as they are the parents of two World War II veterans — Bernard (who used "Wise" as his surname), and Elmer, who enlisted as Al White. Both served in the Canadian military during WWII, Bernard in the air force and Elmer in the army. (There is a third "Weisz" in the Veterans Database, so far unidentified but possibly brother Sam (who married Eva nee Austin and became a doctor in Edmonton.) A closer look at father Herman tells us that he had a sister named Sobel, who married a fellow named Mendel Katz. The JHSSA subject files include information on Benny Katz, one of the war orphans who came to Calgary after World War II as a Holocaust survivor; he stayed with the family of Herman and Gita Weisz for 3 years, and remained part of their family throughout his life.

Part of the Pier 21 query refers to Louis' marriage to Mary, with guesses as to both date and location — the JHSSA's Jay and Barbara Joffe Archives is the proud custodian of the registry maintained by Rabbi Smolensky, which provides primary-source proof of both: the marriage took place in Calgary, on February 14, 1932.

Shauna Shapiro Jackson's family history notes tells us that Mary originally came to Calgary from Winnipeg (yes, she was part of

the notable Winnipeg Asper family), along with her brother Leon and his wife Celia, when Leon, a violinist, was offered a position as conductor of the Palace Theatre Orchestra. They also played at the Grand Theatre, under conductor Grigori Garbovitsky. Mary met Louis through the Barazofsky family (this family name isn't in the Calgary *Henderson's Directories* for this time period, nor is it part of JHSSA subject or cemetery files, but our files do boast robust information on local theatres and musical ensembles of the day, including both Garbovitsky and the Grande). The Goldsteins had three daughters, Betty, Esther and Cecille, all of whom were musically gifted. Mary died in Calgary in 1961, and is buried in the Erlton cemetery; Louis subsequently moved to Edmonton, and was buried there when he died in 1971.

Returning to Louis' mother Shifra, there is an annotated family tree attached to her geni.com page, that provides yet another interesting connection. In "Notes about Shifra's kids and their descendants", we learn that Elmer had two children, Giselle White and Harris Dvorkin, who "took his mother's name". Our cemetery file for Harris Dvorkin includes his obituary, which states that he was adopted at age five and raised by his maternal grandparents, Abraham David (Dave) and Rose Dvorkin. Our family file for Dave and Rose, which includes a page from *Who's Who in Canadian Jewry 1967*, mentions another son, Joseph, who became a renowned pioneer in bypass surgery.



Abraham David (Dave) Dvorkin, c1967. JHSSA #2342

And "bypass" is on the nose in this situation, since finding an extraction point to stop one's research is often arbitrary.* The thing about a network of burrows is that there is always another historical nugget tempting one around the next metaphorical corner, and trying to sketch out all of the related pieces results in a web of arrows going back and forth in an almost dizzying manner. Our stories are complex and interconnected, which makes our work rich and highly rewarding.

*The technical term for an erosion of focus when following connections during research is "scope-creep".

Our history is not only a web of connections within our community, it is also deeply influenced by people and events in the wider community. As such, it is fitting to note that our office and archives are located in the traditional territory of the Kainai, Piikani, Siksika, Stoney-Nakoda and Tsuut'ina Nations, and Métis Nation of Alberta Region 3.

PROVINCE OF ALBERTA REGISTER OF MARRIAGES					
(Congregation or Cure)					
NAME OF BRIDEGROOM	NAME OF BRIDE	DATE OF MARRIAGE	PLACE OF MARRIAGE (Street and No. if any)	OFFICIATING CLERGYMAN	NAMES AND RES- THA Where denominational
Nathan Prepes	Rose Cristall	Nov. 8 - 1931	319 - 27 ave W.	Smolensky	S. Sheet M. Katz
Leon Harry Leberman	Clara Maerov	" 15 "	1020 - 5 ave W.	"	S. Sheet E. Shupis
Morris Mandelmen	Rebecca Switzer	" 22 "	House of Jacob	"	S. Sheet A. Betty
Abraham B. Braenberg	Naomi Goldman	Dec. 27	" "	"	S. Sheet E. Pearl
Louis Goldstein	Mary Asper	Feb. 14 - 1932	640 - 17 ave. W.	"	S. Sheet W. Sh
Max Jacobson	Poza Lizenman	" 28 "	House of Jacob	"	S. Sheet A. Betty
Jack Fishman	Lily Switzer	March 6th	" "	"	S. Sheet A. Betty
Aaron Winogradsky	Anne Rosenthal	" 30th	409 - 1 St. E.	"	S. Sheet P. Fish
Abraham Switzer	Sadie Morris	April 3rd	House of Jacob	"	S. Sheet A. Betty
Morris Hulerman	Frances Switzer	June 8th	409 - 1 St. E.	"	S. Sheet M. Sh
Jacob Charles Klingner	Paul Inger Davids	" 12 "	House of Jacob	"	S. Sheet M. Sh
Morris Roden	Ida Siman	" 19 "	409 - 1 St. E.	"	S. Sheet A. La
Dave Berg	Barna Raider	Feb 1st 1933	House of Jacob	"	S. Sheet E. Shupis

Register page recording the marriage of Louis Goldstein and Mary Asper, Feb 14, 1932

JHSSA Cemetery Files

JHSSA is proud of our extensive and increasingly exhaustive cemetery records, as they are one of our most frequently-consulted resources. We would like to thank volunteer Melissa Cohen, granddaughter of Manny Cohen^{z"l}, who spent many hours last fall setting up a spreadsheet to facilitate this important, ongoing work. Each record begins with a copy of the **Calgary Chevra Kadisha notice** — which includes the date of death (according to both the secular and Jewish calendars), as well as funeral and burial information — that has historically been sent out upon the death of any member of our community. An index card is created for the person, and put into an envelope along with the Chevra notice, and an **obituary** when one is available. Every January, we consult the lists provided by both the Chevra Kadisha and the Beth Tzedec Synagogue (which oversees the Beth Tzedec Memorial Park) to confirm burial locations from the previous calendar year. Generally in the late summer or early fall, JHSSA **volunteers** go to Erlton, 37th Street, Beth Tzedec and Queen's Park cemeteries, and take photos of the **markers** that were erected the year before. Information from these photos, such as the marker inscription, is added to the individual's index card; the photos themselves are added to the appropriate envelope, which is filed alphabetically.

Considerable time has been spent over the past year, reviewing our records and making sure that our cemetery files and photos are up to date. Internet searches have become an invaluable step in this process, and as more and more resources become digitized, we are sometimes able to add new information to our existing records. This is not only through better access to newspaper back-issues, but also thanks to the work of those who maintain and update cemetery search engines like findagrave.com, which sometimes attach obituaries or other records to the individuals' entries.

Continued on Page 5



Headstone for Wayne Carey

Carey, Wayne Douglas Avraham ben Avraham
b. Oct 19, 1944
d. Aug 31, 2011
1 Elul 5771
Location: 37 th St. O Road P
* Beloved Husband, Father, Grandpa and son

Index card for Wayne Carey

Carey, Wayne Douglas	obit
----------------------	------

Cemetery file envelope for Wayne Carey

Chevra Kadisha Notices

We specifically mention that the Chevra Kadisha notices have “historically been sent out upon the death of any member of our community,” because there has been a small but noticeable rise in the number of community members whose passings have not been handled by the Chevra. In many of these cases, we are only able to add these people to our records thanks to our newspaper-reading supporters who clip-and-share obituaries they have come across, when they have recognized a name or family connection. While these individuals' records may never be quite as complete as those through the Chevra, we feel it is important to include and incorporate them into the full body of our Cemetery files.

Obituaries

JHSSA looks for obituaries through the local newspapers and the funeral home, an activity that has become much simpler with the ease of online search engines, and the rise in online publications. With that in mind: If you have family members who died pre-1990, the odds are good we don't have an obituary for them, and would appreciate a copy for our records.

In addition, we are grateful for the thoughtfulness of our clip-and-share supporters, who provide us with hard-copy obituaries of current community members. We particularly appreciate the fact that they keep an eye out for obituaries for former southern Alberta residents who have died elsewhere, and share them as well. While we don't track this latter category as fully, the information is added to our cemetery and family subject files as appropriate.

Interestingly, a trend began during the pandemic with families not submitting obituaries to the local newspapers on the death of a loved one. Our assumption is that this was because funerals became private, due to the restrictions on public gatherings, and families didn't see the point in making a public announcement. What they didn't realize is that obituaries provide a wonderful synopsis of a person's life, and the family connections mentioned are often invaluable to those doing research down the road. (Please see the Research Web article in this issue of Discovery for an example of what we mean.)

Volunteers

JHSSA would like to acknowledge the work of volunteers Karen Belzberg and Betty Sherwood, who last year spent considerable time locating and photographing missing Calgary markers. We are also fortunate to have volunteers in Lethbridge and Medicine Hat who are able to take and share photos of markers in those cities. Occasionally, someone is buried elsewhere in or near Calgary, and we make every effort to photograph those markers as well.

Cemetery files *Continued from Page 4*

Markers

There is a full year’s lag with the taking of headstone photos, due primarily to the realities of the local climate. While tradition dictates that an unveiling is generally held close to the one-year anniversary of someone’s passing, here it is often scheduled around the weather, with most unveilings being held between May and October. This means, for example, that unveilings in the fall of 2021 were held not just for individuals who died earlier that year, but for those who died in November or December of 2020 as well. If we had taken the 2020 photos in the spring of 2021, many markers would be missed. By waiting until 2021, we can be fairly sure that all the unveilings have occurred, and it is easier to keep our records complete, if a year behind. If no marker has been erected, the name is carried over to the following year’s list. If there is no marker after two years, we take and keep a photo of the site identifier used by the cemetery.

Zichronam Livracha – may their memory be for a blessing

Throughout the process of reviewing our cemetery records, we are reminded of stories from our community’s past. Obituaries tell us these stories directly – did you know that Geraldine Jeffries was a champion dachshund breeder? Or that Ed Heltay played in three Grey Cup games? – but headstones often only hint at them. Further research sometimes fills in the details for us, but mysteries often remain.



Harry Switzer was the youngest son of Jacob and Chaya Switzer. He worked as a tailor and later ran Star Cleaners, and married Sari (nee Rosenbaum) in 1943. Harry and his young son, Jack Jacob, died in 1960 in a car crash that also took the life of Harry’s sister Rivka Zysblat, mother of Ida Eichler. The smaller Hebrew inscription begins “Who died together on ...”



Khasia Malaechter, born in 1909, was buried in Erlton cemetery when she died in 1996. The headstone marking her grave also mentions Ilia Malaechter, 1912-1942: the Russian inscription at the bottom of the marker refers to “mother” and “grandmother”, but we have been unable to learn anything more about them.



We don’t know the story behind the shared marker erected by the Siegel and Leibovitch families, for “beloved wife Hilda” and “beloved wife and mother Rachel”, who both died in 1943. Hilda’s marker notes that she was the daughter of Benjamin, and there is a Benjamin, son of Leib Leibovitch, buried in Erlton cemetery in 1928; Rachel’s marker states that she was the daughter of Leib, which suggests that she was Benjamin’s sister, and Rachel’s aunt. Our assumption from this is that the marker was erected by a Calgary descendant of Benjamin, but we have not been able to confirm this.



Despite repeated searches of both hard-copy and, in recent years, digital resources, a mystery remains surrounding Mr and Mrs Stone, whose Erlton markers give no information besides their names and English dates of death: October 29, 1918, and October 25, 1918 (respectively). Although the surname “Stone” does appear from time to time in community records, both in Calgary and other parts of southern Alberta, we have yet to confirm the identity of this [presumed] couple, who likely died of influenza during the pandemic.

JHSSA NEWS

We Get Mail:

From Irena Karshenbaum, founding president of The Little Synagogue on the Prairie Project Society (that gifted the Montefiore Institute to Heritage Park) and board member of JHSSA:

Dear Discovery Readers,

The Montefiore Institute — also known as The Little Synagogue on the Prairie — in 2024, is celebrating its 15-year anniversary at Heritage Park.

The years have been memorable and a lot of fun. We have organized countless events and programs from how a Torah is written, to Klezmer concerts and singing in Ladino, to crafts and storytelling and so much more. We have shared Jewish traditions and culture with almost 6.5 million visitors to the synagogue.

A huge thank you for this success belongs to all the dedicated interpreters over the years and to Heritage Park for their support and stewardship.



Albert Fialkow blowing the shofar for a Rosh Hashanah program in front of the Montefiore Institute, with interpreter, Marni Besser, looking on, September 10, 2023. Photo credit: Irena Karshenbaum

We are planning a number of special programs for 2024 and we hope you will join us for these, as well as at other times, in the Montefiore Institute.

From Kevin Ko, the contract archivist who created a spreadsheet for tracking our photo collection. Kevin has gone on to a full-time job with the University of Calgary / Glenbow archives, and he emailed us a few months ago:

I just wanted to let you know that I've recently finished processing the Jack Switzer fonds for the Glenbow collection. Even though you probably have copies of a lot of the materials, I thought it might be helpful for you to have a finding aid for your own reference (please find attached). The materials should be published by March 2024 and will be publicly available through the UofC Archives Glenbow website, though I doubt any of it will be digitized (physically accessible through the Glenbow Western Reading Room on campus).

I must say, it was a great pleasure for me to go through the textual side of things after having gone through the photographic records with next to no context. It has given me even more appreciation for the history of the Jewish community of Southern Alberta, and as well, for all the great work your organization has done throughout the years.

Jubilee Medals:

Last spring, JHSSA was pleased to announce that long-time supporters Harry Sanders, Barry Finkelman and Trudy Cowan had been honoured with 2023 Queen's Platinum Jubilee Medals. Now that the full list of recipients has been published, we are even more pleased to acknowledge many more recipients connected to our southern Alberta Jewish community: Avi Amir, Robbie Babins-Wagner, Jenny Belzberg, Brent Belzberg (Jenny's son, now living in Toronto), Marni Bondar, Barry Boltzman, Jeff Booke (former Executive Director of the Calgary JCC), Don Braid, Martin Cohos, Trudy Cowan, Barry Finkelman, Sam Fishman, Gordon Hoffman, Alvin Libin, Bobby Libin, Dahlia Libin, Sean Libin, Menachem Matusof, Jack Mintz, Jorge Romberg, Harry Sanders, Allan Sattin, Brian Sidorsky, Andrea Silverstone, Fania Wedro²¹ and Deborah Yedlin. *Mazel tov and kol hakavod!*

Special thanks to:

The Jewish Cultural Society of Yukon, who have generously donated their updated book, *The Jewish Presence in the Yukon: before, during, and after the Klondike gold rush*, to the JHSSA Harry and Martha Cohen Library;

Karen Belzberg and Betty Sherwood for their several cemetery trips, taking marker photos;

Elena Ragolsky, for translating some Russian letters;

Michele Doctoroff, whose donation of a Calgary Hebrew School saucer gives us a complete place setting;

And to our anonymous donor in Medicine Hat – your support is appreciated!

Upcoming JHSSA Events: Canadian Jewish Heritage Month and beyond:

May is Canadian Jewish Heritage Month, and JHSSA is celebrating! We are very excited to partner with Calgary Public Library for two May programs. On Thursday, May 16, Sandra Lipton will present "Lewis Ginsberg – A Rabbi for all of Calgary". Sandra is looking for additional photos of Rabbi Ginsberg, if you have any to share, please contact us ASAP. On Tuesday, May 21, Irena Karshenbaum will present "The History of Jewish Farming from the Argentine Pampas to the Canadian Prairies." Both programs will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the BMO community room at the Central Library.

Our third May program is something to sing about: Laura Shuler and her troubadours will present "Lunch, Learn and Love" on Wednesday, May 15 in partnership with Beth Tzedec Hazak. The troubadours will be in action again in June with the same theme but a different script, celebrating The Montefiore Institute's 15th anniversary at Heritage Park with two performances of "Best with Schmaltz, Songs and Stories of Romance, Jewish Historical Style" on Sunday, June 23 in the Little Synagogue at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

More information can be found on our website, including registration links through Calgary Public Library and Beth Tzedec. All of these programs are open to the public; the Heritage Park programs require the purchase of park admission in order to attend.



2024 Membership List

Membership donations are used to support the projects and operations of the JHSSA, which is an independent, self-sustaining organization. We issue official tax receipts for all donations. Our membership year is from September to August. Welcome to our new members.

Special thanks to all those members who have made donations beyond their membership fee. Please inform our office of any inadvertent omissions or corrections so we can include them in our next issue.

In addition to our Anonymous members:

Individuals

Deborah Barron
Valerie Barsky
Brian Belzberg
Karen Belzberg
Sheila Bermack
Claire Berman
Annabelle Bondar
Sarabeth Carnat
Jeri Churgin
Bernice Cohen
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Stephen G Kennedy
Boris Karn &
SJ Kerr-Lapsley

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Philip & Judy Parker
Saul Prince
Eliezer Segal &
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Molly Ross
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President's Message

By **Sandra Lipton**

This issue of Discovery highlights some key JHSSA resources. JHSSA holds many important documents and collections describing the Jewish experience in southern Alberta, most of which have been given to us by community members. Please help us expand our story. Contact our office if you'd like more information about donating documents or photographs.

As an organization solely dependent on membership, donations and grants, we are deeply appreciative of the over 190 individuals and families who have renewed their memberships. We are also indebted to major donors such as The Alvin and Mona Libin Foundation, who annually provide significant funding to our organization. Our 56 LIFE & LEGACY donors (individuals/couples) play a key role in ensuring future stability for JHSSA through a projected future endowment of over a million dollars. JHSSA is so grateful to all who have formalized their commitment, and encourage those who have not yet participated in this program to please consider becoming a legacy donor to ensure that your support for JHSSA will continue in perpetuity. Thank you to all our members, board, staff, and our many volunteers for all your support and dedication.

Grants and special donations allow us to take on special projects to enhance our mission. Providing comprehensive public access to our collection of approximately 15000 print and digital photographs is a major project that the Board has identified as a priority. Our 3500 processed print photographs are used extensively internally for displays, publications and presentations,

in addition to public and research use. Addressing our backlog of approximately 7500 unprocessed hard copy photographs, through weeding, cataloguing and housing, will significantly enhance access to our visual history. A generous donation from Gay and Eric Libin, in memory of Beryl and Leon Libin and the legacy they left, enabled JHSSA to begin improving access to our photograph collection through an inventory of our processed print photos. This inventory was completed last year, but much work remains to properly describe and provide access to our complete collection of print photographs. With the cost of this work estimated at more than half of our total annual budget, special donations in support for this project would be greatly appreciated.



I am very pleased to welcome Lila Mydlarski and Rona Davies to the Board and thank outgoing member Donna Crawford for her contributions and for her ongoing volunteer work in oral history.

Hope to see you at our May programs. Wishing you all a happy Shavuot and a warm and relaxing summer.

Thank You to our LIFE & LEGACY™ Donors

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Help ensure the future of the JHSSA with a gift in your will, trust, retirement account or life insurance policy. Contact our office at jhssa@shaw.ca, 403-444-3171, or through jhssa.org

DISCOVERY

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The editors welcome submissions for publication relating to areas of Calgary and Southern Alberta Jewish history. All articles should be typed, documented and sent for consideration.

Statements of fact or opinion appearing in Discovery are the responsibility of the authors alone, and do not imply the endorsement of the editors or the JHSSA.

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